

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A device for testing the operation of a modem in a computer, the device comprising:

a case;

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a first communication port attached to the case; and

a signal reporting circuit located within the case and coupled to the first communication port, the signal reporting circuit configured to test the transmit capability of a modem in a computer.

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2. The device of claim 1 further comprising a second communication port coupled to the signal reporting circuit.

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3. The device of claim 1 wherein the signal reporting circuit comprises a microprocessor and an analog to digital converter coupled to the microprocessor and the first communication port.

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4. The device of claim 1 wherein the signal reporting circuit comprises a microprocessor and a modem coupled to the microprocessor and the first communication port.

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5. A method of testing the operation of a modem in a computer using a portable modem testing device, the method comprising:

coupling the modem in the computer to the portable modem testing device;

initiating transmission of test data from the modem;

receiving the transmission from the modem at the portable modem testing device; and

verifying the transmission.

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6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

coupling the computer to the portable modem testing device via an alternate communication link; and

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after the portable modem testing device has received the transmission from the modem, transmitting a signal from the portable modem testing device to the computer via the alternate communication link.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

sending a signal from the portable modem testing device to the computer via the alternate communication link to initiate testing the operation of the modem in the computer.

5 ~~SECRET~~ A method of testing the operation of a modem in a computer using a portable modem testing device, the method comprising:

coupling the modem in the computer to the portable modem testing device;

10 initiating transmission of test data from the portable modem testing device;

receiving the transmission from the portable modem testing device at the modem; and

verifying the transmission.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

15 coupling the computer to the portable modem testing device via an alternate communication link; and

after the modem has received the transmission from the portable modem testing device, transmitting a signal from the computer to the portable modem testing device via the alternate communication link.

20 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

sending a signal from the portable modem testing device to the computer via the alternate communication link to initiate testing the operation of the modem in the computer.

25 ~~SECRET~~ A method of testing the operation of a modem in a computer using a portable modem testing device, the method comprising:

coupling the modem in the computer to the portable modem testing device;

initiating transmission of test data from the modem;

30 receiving the transmission from the modem at the portable modem testing device;

verifying the transmission;

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initiating transmission of test data from the portable modem testing device;

receiving the transmission from the portable modem testing device at the modem; and

verifying the transmission.